

CLAIMS

1. A process for the preparation of a dry powder inhaler which comprises exposing,
during manufacture, a dry powder inhaler optionally filed with a powder formulation, or one or
5 more components thereof, to a gas at low pressure.

2. A process according to claim 1 where the gas is air.

3. A process according to claim 1 or 2 where the pressure is less than 200 mbar.

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4. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 3 where the pressure is less than 100
mbar.

5. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 4 where the inhaler is Turbuhaler.

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6. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 where the powder formulation
comprises one or more drugs and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or
excipients.

20 7. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 where the drug is mometasone (e.g. as
furoate), ciclesonide, zoticasone, flumoxonide, fluticasone (e.g. as 17-propionate) budesonide,
salmeterol (e.g. as xinafoate) and formoterol (e.g. as fumarate dihydrate) or tiotropium
bromide.

25 8. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 where the drugs are combinations of
fluticasone propionate/salmeterol xinafoate, ciclesonide/formoterol fumarate dihydrate,
mometasone furoate/formoterol fumarate dihydrate, budesonide/formoterol fumarate
dihydrate, fluticasone propionate/formoterol fumarate dihydrate and tiotropium
bromide/formoterol fumarate dihydrate.

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9. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 5 where the drugs are combinations of,
budesonide and formoterol fumarate dihydrate.

10. A process for reducing electrostatic charges from one or more inhaler components, or a complete inhaler, optionally filed with a powder formulation, the process comprising:

- 5 i) placing one or more inhaler components, or a complete inhaler, optionally filed with a powder formulation in a chamber,
- ii) reducing the pressure of gas in the chamber,
- iii) returning the pressure to atmospheric pressure
- iv) optionally repeating steps ii) and iii)

10 11. A dry powder inhaler prepared according to the process of any one of claims 1 to 10.